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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/241,989	02/02/1999	MASARU SUZUKI	JA992-011-8	9403
22150	7590	07/11/2005	EXAMINER	
F. CHAU & ASSOCIATES, LLC 130 WOODBURY ROAD WOODBURY, NY 11797			PARKER, KENNETH	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2871	

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 09/241,989	<b>Applicant(s)</b> SUZUKI ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> Kenneth A. Parker	<b>Art Unit</b> 2871	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 March 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7,13,15-19 and 42-60 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 3-5 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6,13,19 and 42-60 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,7,15-18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***One reference submitted in the IDS of 5/9/2002 had a teaching not previously appreciated relevant to the claims. A rejection over that reference appears below.***

### ***Reissue Applications***

Applicant is reminded of the continuing obligation under 37 CFR 1.178(b), to timely apprise the Office of any prior or concurrent proceeding in which Patent No. 5600462 is or was involved. These proceedings would include interferences, reissues, reexaminations, and litigation.

Applicant is further reminded of the continuing obligation under 37 CFR 1.56, to timely apprise the Office of any information which is material to patentability of the claims under consideration in this reissue application.

These obligations rest with each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application for reissue. See also MPEP §§ 1404, 1442.01 and 1442.04.

***2. Claims 42-53, 57-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being an improper recapture of broadened claimed subject matter surrendered in the application for the patent upon which the present reissue is based. See Hester Industries, Inc. v. Stein, Inc., 142 F.3d 1472, 46 USPQ2d 1641 (Fed. Cir. 1998); In re Clement, 131 F.3d 1464, 45 USPQ2d 1161 (Fed. Cir. 1997); Ball***

Corp. v. United States, 729 F.2d 1429, 1436, 221 USPQ 289, 295 (Fed. Cir. 1984). A broadening aspect is present in the reissue which was not present in the application for patent. The record of the application for the patent shows that the broadening aspect (in the reissue) relates to subject matter that applicant previously surrendered during the prosecution of the application. Accordingly, the narrow scope of the claims in the patent was not an error within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 251, and the broader scope surrendered in the application for the patent cannot be recaptured by the filing of the present reissue application in paper # 16 , all claims (claims 1 and 3) without the limitations of the LCD and backlight were cancelled. Although no arguments were presented with these amendments, the arguments were presented to the improvement in relation to the use of the claimed angle range in an LCD in conjunction with amending the claims to be limited to the improvement argued. Therefore, these limitations are "surrender limitations". These limitations have now been removed from the claims. The claims have been narrowed, but not in the sense of the surrender limitations. The claims have intended use limitations, however they do not differ materially from the cancelled claims, and therefore constitute recapture of previously surrendered subject matter.

The record of the application for the patent shows that the broadening aspect (in the reissue) relates to subject matter that applicant previously surrendered during the prosecution of the application. Accordingly, the narrow scope of the claims in the patent was not an error within the meaning of 35

U.S.C. 251, and the broader scope surrendered in the application for the patent cannot be recaptured by the filing of the present reissue application

In paper #16, all claims (claims 1 and 3) without the limitations of the LCD and backlight were cancelled. Although no arguments were presented with these amendments, Therefore, these limitations are "surrender limitations". These limitations have now been removed from the claims. The claims have been narrowed, but not in the sense of the surrender limitations. The claims have intended use limitations, however they do not differ materially from the cancelled claims, and therefore constitute recapture of previously surrendered subject matter.

The record of the application for the patent shows that the broadening aspect (in the reissue) relates to subject matter that applicant previously surrendered during the prosecution of the application. Accordingly, the narrow scope of the claims in the patent was not an error within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 251, and the broader scope surrendered in the application for the patent cannot be recaptured by the filing of the present reissue application

In paper # 16, all claims (claims 1 and 3) without the limitations of the LCD and backlight were cancelled. Although no arguments were presented with these amendments, Therefore, these limitations are "surrender limitations". These limitations have now been removed from the claims. The claims have been narrowed, but not in the sense of the surrender limitations. The claims have intended use limitations, however they do not differ materially from the cancelled

claims, and therefore constitute recapture of previously surrendered subject matter.

**Claims 51-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 251 as being based upon new matter added to the patent for which reissue is sought. The added material which is not supported by the prior patent is as follows:**

1. The description of and reference to pitch variations and angle variations in the prism. This is not a request to change the drawings- the drawings do not indicate multiple pitches, but a single pitch that can be set to anywhere from a lower to a higher level. What needs to be removed is any reference to multiple pitches and multiple angles, both of which were not previously a part of the application. The figure that shows "pitch=150+-10um" still shows a pitch which can be selected to be from 140-160 um, not multiple pitches between peaks. Those of ordinary skill would have recognized this as it is stated- that the pitch (a single pitch) should be set at 150 plus or minus 10 um, not that there should be different pitches from prism to prism. Further, no description of how or why the angles and or pitch varied. Because of the lack of any explanation for how, why or in what way the pitch or angle should be varied and the figure description being the common way of indicating a single pitch, one of ordinary skill would have found that applicant was not in possession of the invention having multiple pitches and/or angles. The language does not exclude

the possibility of variations, however it does not provide description of variations in pitch from prism to prism.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

**Claims 51-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention.** The figure that shows "pitch=150+-10 um" still shows a pitch which can be selected to be from 140-160 um, not multiple pitches between peaks. Those of ordinary skill would have recognized this as it is stated- that the pitch (a single pitch) should be set at 150 plus or minus 10 um, not that there should be different pitches from prism to prism. Further, no description of how or why the angles and or pitch varied. Because of the lack of any explanation for how, why or in what way the pitch or angle should be varied and the figure description being the common way of indicating a single pitch, one of ordinary skill would have found that applicant was not in possession of the invention

having multiple pitches and/or angles. The language does not exclude the possibility of variations, however it does not provide description of variations in pitch from prism to prism.

**Claims 51- 60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.**

As applicant has not provided even a single example showing how the pitch is to be varied, or explained what it is to be varied for, those of skill in the art would have no way to set how or where to vary the pitch, in fact they would not know if they achieved the invention of applicants as no goal or example has been presented. As none had a pitch variation as claimed, and applicant has given no indication of how or why the pitch should be varied, without known why they are doing it, or how it should be done, they would not be able to make a variation which would work for any purpose.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:



Art Unit: 2871

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claims 1, 6, 13, 19, 42-50 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kashima et al 5442523 in view of Kaneko et al 01-131010.**

The Kashima reference shows regarding claim 1:

A liquid crystal display device including a liquid crystal display panel and a back light device (this is met in the discussion of the Field of Utility "this invention relates to a backlighting device for a liquid crystal device"), said back light device comprising:

a light source 4 for emitting light;

a light guide means 1 having a top surface facing a back surface of said liquid crystal display panel (this is met in the discussion of the Field of Utility "this invention relates to a backlighting device for a liquid crystal device") and a side surface receiving said light from said light source;

a reflector means 6 provided on a back surface of said light guide means;

an optical film 7 of transparent material positioned between said back surface of said liquid crystal display panel and said top surface of said light guide means (it is shown on the emission side of the guide, and as it is part of the backlight it is by necessity between the liquid crystal panel and the top surface of the light guide, although the liquid crystal panel is not shown in the figure), including a first surface having a wave structure including a plurality of

regularly spaced isosceles triangle prisms arranged side-by-side (this is how they are shown), the prisms having smooth surfaces (they are shown as smooth).

The a top angle of the isosceles triangle prisms in a range of 95 degrees to 120 degrees for flat is not exactly shown, however the reference indicates preferable range is 90-110, which is about the same as applicants range of 95-120, and is viewed as anticipating the range in that is overlapping with sufficient specificity. However, for the sake of argument, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to select a value in between 95 and 120 as it has been judicially determined that overlapping ranges are at least obvious, and as the function described is the same function that the reference is optimizing. The function that the angled prism surfaces to gather light from the diffuse transmission into a desired viewing angle for the liquid crystal display panel is met as the structure is met, but the actual function as claimed is described in the reference. For example the function of making the light "substantially concentrated" in the "vertical angle of interest" is described.

The reference has and a second diffuser 1 having an optically rough structure for performing diffuse transmission, but not a surface on the opposite side of the means 7.

The reference by Kaneko shows in figure 2 an example with a saw shaped surface on one side (7a) and a second diffusion surface (7b) on the other side. Kaneko directly compares this to an embodiment where a separate

film is used for the function provided by 7b, indicating that with this structure, the separate film (diffusion sheet 5) can be omitted. This improvement is directly applicable to Kashima, as Kashima has the two separate diffusion sheets which would have the identical benefit of the two being made into one sheet, saving on the thickness and cost of the second sheet. Therefore one of ordinary skill would have found teaching, motivation and suggestion in the secondary reference to modify the primary reference to incorporate the lower diffuser film as a roughened surface on the back of the first film containing prisms.

The Kashima reference shows regarding claim 6:

A liquid crystal display device including a liquid crystal display panel and a back light device (this is met in the discussion of the Field of Utility "this invention relates to a backlighting device for a liquid crystal device"), said back light device comprising:

- a light source 4 for emitting light;

- a light guide means 1 having a top surface facing a back surface of said liquid crystal display panel (this is met in the discussion of the Field of Utility "this invention relates to a backlighting device for a liquid crystal device") and a side surface receiving said light from said light source;

- a reflector means 6 provided on a back surface of said light guide means;

and an optical film 7 of transparent material positioned between said liquid crystal display panel and said light guide means, including a first surface having a structure including a plurality of quadrangular prisms, which are substantially the same size and shape (this is how they are shown), in an orderly matrix of equally spaced prisms (as shown), the prisms having smooth surfaces (as shown). The a top angle of the quadrangular isosceles triangle prisms in a range of 95 degrees to 120 degrees for flat is not exactly shown, however the reference indicates preferable range is 90-110, which is about the same as applicants range of 95-120, and is viewed as anticipating the range in that is overlapping with sufficient specificity. However, for the sake of argument, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill to select a value in between 95 and 120 as it has been judicially determined that overlapping ranges are at least obvious, and as the function described is the same function that the reference is optimizing. The function that the angled prism surfaces to gather light from the diffuse transmission into a desired viewing angle for the liquid crystal display panel is met as the structure is met, but the actual function as claimed is described in the reference. For example the function of making the light "substantially concentrated" in the "vertical angle of interest" is described..

The reference has and a second diffuser 1 having an optically rough structure for performing diffuse transmission, but not a surface on the opposite side of the means 7.

The reference by Kaneko shows in figure 2 an example with a saw shaped surface on one side (7a) and a second diffusion surface (7b) on the other side. Kaneko directly compares this to an embodiment where a separate film is used for the function provided by 7b, indicating that with this structure, the separate film (diffusion sheet 5) can be omitted. This improvement is directly applicable to Kashima, as Kashima has the two separate diffusion sheets which would have the identical benefit of the two being made into one sheet, saving on the thickness and cost of the second sheet. Therefore one of ordinary skill would have found teaching, motivation and suggestion in the secondary reference to modify the primary reference to incorporate the lower diffuser film as a roughened surface on the back of the first film containing prisms.

The Kashima reference shows regarding claim 13:

A liquid crystal display device including a liquid crystal display panel and a back light device (this is met in the discussion of the Field of Utility "this invention relates to a backlighting device for a liquid crystal device"), said back light device comprising:

- a light source 4 for emitting light;

- a light guide means 1 having a top surface facing a back surface of said liquid crystal display panel (this is met in the discussion of the Field of Utility "this invention relates to a backlighting device for a liquid crystal device") and a side surface receiving said light from said light source;

a reflector means 6 provided on a back surface of said light guide means;  
an optical film 7 of transparent material positioned between said back surface of said liquid crystal display panel and said top surface of said light guide means (it is shown on the emission side of the guide, and as it is part of the backlight it is by necessity between the liquid crystal panel and the top surface of the light guide, although the liquid crystal panel is not shown in the figure), including a first surface having a wave structure including a plurality of regularly spaced isosceles triangles prisms arranged side-by-side (this is how they are shown), the prisms having smooth surfaces (they are shown as smooth), wherein a top angle of said isosceles triangle prisms of said optical film is in a range of about 90 degrees to about 120 (the reference 90-110 is within the claimed range) degrees for flat, angle .

The function that the angled prism surfaces to gather light from the diffuse transmission and directionally distribute said light within a range defined by a given angle is met as the structure is met, but the actual function as claimed is described in the reference. For example the function of making the light "substantially concentrated" in the "vertical angle of interest" is described.

The reference has and a second diffuser 1 having an optically rough structure for performing diffuse transmission, but not a surface on the opposite side of the means 7.

The reference by Kaneko shows in figure 2 an example with a saw shaped surface on one side (7a) and a second diffusion surface (7b) on the

other side. Kaneko directly compares this to an embodiment where a separate film is used for the function provided by 7b, indicating that with this structure, the separate film (diffusion sheet 5) can be omitted. This improvement is directly applicable to Kashima, as Kashima has the two separate diffusion sheets which would have the identical benefit of the two being made into one sheet, saving on the thickness and cost of the second sheet. Therefore one of ordinary skill would have found teaching, motivation and suggestion in the secondary reference to modify the primary reference to incorporate the lower diffuser film as a roughened surface on the back of the first film containing prisms.

The references show regarding claim 19. The liquid crystal display device according to claim 13, wherein the tops of the isosceles triangle prisms are no more than 160  $\mu\text{m}$  apart. The Kashima reference indicates 10 to 100 micrometers, however gives an example at 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , and is therefore considered to give explicit fruition to a value within the range, so this limitation is met by the claim.

The references show regarding claim 42. An optical film of light transparent material including a first surface having an optically rough structure for diffuse-transmitting incident light and a second surface having a wave structure including a plurality of isosceles triangle prisms arranged side-by side, the prisms having smooth surfaces for refracting said light diffuse-transmitted from said first surface

and directionally distributing said diffuse-transmitted light through said second surface for increasing illumination within a viewing angle of about 35 degrees in the vertical direction and about 55 degrees in the horizontal direction wherein a top angle of said isosceles triangle prisms is a range of about 90 degrees to about 120 degrees. Here only a film is claimed, so the "for" limitations are only intended use limitation which are viewed as capable of being met by any film, and therefore met by any device with a film having the claimed structure. This claim is therefore met in accordance with the discussion to claim 13 above to Kashima as modified above.

The references show regarding claim 43. An optical film of light transparent material including a first surface having an optically rough structure for diffuse-transmitting incident light and a second surface having a wave structure including a plurality of isosceles triangle prisms arranged side-by-side the prisms having smooth surfaces for refracting said light diffuse-transmitted from said first surface and directionally distributing said diffuse-transmitted light through said second surface wherein a top angle of said isosceles triangle prisms is in a range of about 90 degrees to about 120 degrees wherein the top angle of the isosceles triangle prisms are no more than 160 um apart. Here only a film is claimed, so the "for" limitations are only intended use limitation which are viewed as capable of being met by any film, and therefore met by any device with a film having the



claimed structure. This claim is therefore met in accordance with the discussion to claim 13 above to Kashima as modified above.

The Kashima reference indicates 10 to 100 micrometers, however gives an example at 50 um, and is therefore considered to give explicit fruition to a value within the range, so this limitation is met by the claim.

The references show regarding claim 44. The optical film according to claim 42. wherein a polarizer is positioned between a liquid crystal display panel and said optical film wherein a direction along which peaks and valleys of said isosceles triangle prisms are oriented is aligned in parallel to a polarization axis of said polarizer. This is merely intended use, and as any film can be used in this manner, the limitations are met by the reference.

The references show regarding claim 45. The optical film according to claim 42. wherein the tops of the isosceles triangle prisms are no more than 160 um apart. The Kashima reference indicates 10 to 100 micrometers, however gives an example at 50 um, and is therefore considered to give explicit fruition to a value within the range, so this limitation is met by the claim.

The Kashima reference shows regarding claim 46: An optical film for use in a liquid crystal display having a front portion and

a back portion said optical film comprising:  
diffusing means including an optically rough structure on a first surface of said film for diffuse-transmitting light illuminated proximal to said back portion of said display and refracting means on a second surface of said film including a plurality of isosceles triangle prisms arranged side-by-side for directionally distributing said diffuse-transmitted light toward said front portion of said display and for increasing luminance of light with in a viewing angle of about 35 degrees in the vertical direction and about 55 degrees in the horizontal direction of said front portion of said display wherein a top angle of said isosceles triangle prisms is in a range of about 90 degrees to about 120 degrees. Here only a film is claimed, so the "for" limitations are only intended use limitation which are viewed as capable of being met by any film, and therefore met by any device with a film having the claimed structure. This claim is therefore met in accordance with the discussion to claim 13 above to Kashima as modified above.

The Kashima reference shows regarding claim 47. The optical film according to claim 46. wherein the tops of the isosceles triangle prisms are no more than 160 um apart. The Kashima reference indicates 10 to 100 micrometers, however gives an example at 50 um, and is therefore considered to give explicit fruition to a value within the range, so this limitation is met by the claim.

The references show regarding claim 48. The optical film according to claim 46, wherein a polarizer is positioned between said front portion of said liquid crystal display and said optical film wherein a direction along which peaks and valleys of said isosceles triangle prisms are oriented is aligned in parallel to a polarizing axis of said polarizer.

This is merely intended use, and as any film can be used in this manner, the limitations are met by the reference.

The references show regarding claim 49. A film for use in an optical system comprising a light source and a polarizer having a polarization axis the film comprising a transparent material including a first surface and a second surface said first surface having a structure including a plurality of isosceles triangular prisms arranged side by side for increasing luminance of light passing through said film in a direction corresponding to said polarization axis of said polarizer and said second surface having an optically rough structure for diffuse transmitting light emitted by said light source wherein a top angle of said isosceles triangle prisms is in a range of about 90 degrees to about 120 degrees wherein the tops of the isosceles triangle prisms are no more than 160  $\mu\text{m}$ . Here only a film is claimed, so the "for" limitations are only intended use limitation which are viewed as capable of being met by any film, and therefore met by any device with a film having the claimed structure. This claim is therefore met in

accordance with the discussion to claim 13 above to Kashima as modified above. The Kashima reference indicates 10 to 100 micrometers, however gives an example at 50  $\mu\text{m}$ , and is therefore considered to give explicit fruition to a value within the range, so this limitation is met by the claim.

The references show regarding claim 50. The optical film according to claim 49 wherein said optical film is positioned within a liquid crystal display said prisms having smooth surfaces for gathering diffuse transmitted light for increasing illumination within and decreasing illumination outside of a viewing angle of about 35 degrees in the vertical direction and about 55 degrees in the horizontal direction of the liquid crystal display. This is merely intended use, and as any film can be used in this manner, the limitations are met by the reference.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 3-5 are allowed.

Claim 2 and 7 and 15-18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter is the use of two sheets. Although other devices may have multiple sheets, they are not analagous as there is no diffuser-prism diffuser-prism structure or similar to apply the teaching of Kaneko to.

Regarding claim 15, the two angles were not taught by the references.

### ***Response to Arguments***

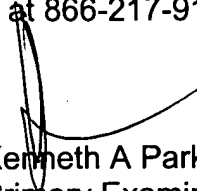
Applicant's arguments filed regarding the recapture rejection based upon the cancellation of claim 2 were agreed with, and the rejection has been dropped. Regarding the recapture rejection to the re-presented claims, those arguments are not agreed with for the reasons presented in the rejection above.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth A. Parker whose telephone number is 571-272-2298. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert H. Kim can be reached on 571-272-2293. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kenneth A Parker  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2871